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UNCLAS MADRID 002070

SIPDIS

PLEASE PASS TO COMMERCE FOR OAR/JNBRUCE OR FAX TO
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SUBJECT: COUNTRY CLEARANCE REQUEST FOR NOAA/Tsung-HUNG
PENG, EDWARD COKELET, HENRY VANDERPLOEG, DORAN MASON,
THOMAS NALEPA, AND ANDREA JAEGER

REF: USDOC 02335

1. Embassy welcomes and grants country clearance to the following individuals: Tsung-Hung Peng, Edward Cokelet, Henry Vanderploeg, Doran Mason, Thomas Nalepa, and Andrea Jaeger, NOAA, to travel to Santiago de Compostela, Spain from June 17-26, 2005. The purpose of this visit is to participate in the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography Summer Meeting.

2. Embassy understands no additional assistance is required.

3. Visitors are reminded that bearers of diplomatic and official passports coming to Spain on official business need to obtain a Spanish visa prior to arrival to Spain.

4. THREAT ASSESSMENT:

In general, Spain is safe. However, Madrid, Barcelona and other large cities in Spain --including resort/convention areas such as Benidorm-- attract a large number of criminals and pickpockets and frequent incidents of crime of opportunity against the unwary do occur. Carry only essential items including a photocopy of your passport's photo page. Visitors can protect themselves against crime by being street-smart, alert and aware of their surroundings. In the event you are victimized by crime, or experience any security-related incident, please contact the Embassy's Regional Security Office at 91-587-2550 or after hours at 91-587-2355. Official visitors to the Embassy in Madrid or the Consulate General in Barcelona are encouraged to receive a security briefing from the RSO office at their earliest convenience. Additional information regarding safety and security in Spain is available on the U.S. Department of State's website (www.embusa.es).

Travelers are encouraged to review the most recent Worldwide Caution issued by the Department of State. As the Department of State continues to develop information on any potential security threats to Americans overseas, it shares credible threat information through its Consular Information Program documents, available on the Internet at <http://travel.state.gov>. In addition to information on the Internet, U.S. travelers can hear recorded information by calling the Department of State in Washington, D.C. at 202-647-5225 from their touch-tone telephone, or receive information by automated telefax by dialing 202-647-3000 from their fax machine.

MANZANARES